

Those are the reasons that I oppose these tax increases.

#### SAFER AIR ACT

Mr. BENNETT. Madam President, I am pleased to rise today to speak about an important piece of legislation that I introduced last week with my friend Senator KLOBUCHAR. The SAFER AIR Act is going to bring our commercial air travel security checkpoints into the 21st century. Threats to our Nation's air travelers have advanced and magnetometers are simply not enough in this post-9/11 world. Our legislation would support and expand TSA's current efforts to adopt and deploy advanced technologies, like the advanced imaging technology, and explosive trace detection at an accelerated pace to ensure such equipment is the primary screening method in every commercial airport.

The December 25 terror attempt on NW flight 253 was a frightening wake-up call that could have been prevented. It represents a failure in the mechanisms of our national security. This failed plot highlights our need to look at areas that can increase our security in the national airport system immediately. Important security improvements have been made in intelligence handling, but I am convinced more needs to be done. Airport security improvements are a needed and overdue part of the equation.

I have been watching our domestic airport security closely in the past year. My airport in Salt Lake City, UT, is a testing site for advanced imaging technology. I have seen this machine in use, and been impressed with what represents a true advancement in the technology of safer skies. TSA needs to utilize equipment that is currently available to identify plastic and liquid explosives as well as move forward with the development and testing of new technologies to fight emerging threats.

Our bill will require TSA to install technology with the capability of detecting plastic explosives, liquid explosives and other nonmetallic threats and explosives. These devices have been tested and available since 2007. The delay in deployment has gone on long enough. The SAFER AIR Act will require this technology in all commercial airports by 2013 and will encourage the further development of these technologies as threats continue to advance.

An important provision in our legislation is the privacy protections it will establish for our traveling public. I applaud TSA for the protections it has already put in place. Our language will codify those protections and ensure the new technologies will also be used in a manner that doesn't violate the personal privacy of commercial flyers in the United States.

New and emerging technologies have a great ability to detect nontraditional threats. I am eager to see these capa-

bilities improved through further innovation and testing. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the SAFER AIR Act and do all we can to better protect the traveling public from existing and emerging threats.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### ARKANSAS NEWS-EDITORIAL CONTEST WINNERS

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Madam President, today I congratulate the 2010 winners of the Arkansas Press Association's News-Editorial Contest, who were honored this past weekend during the 2010 Tri-State Convention, cohosted by the press associations of Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee. I commend the Arkansas reporters, editors, and staff who were recognized during this prestigious event.

Under the leadership of executive director Tom Larimer, the Arkansas Press Association serves 135 newspapers: 99 weeklies, six semi-weeklies, 28 dailies and 2 free newspapers.

Our Arkansas newspapers inform citizens throughout our State and are an essential part of Arkansas's culture. I appreciate the dedication of all of our Arkansas news media, and I commend them on their commitment to excellence in journalism.

As the oldest professional association in the State, the Arkansas Press Association has a long history of supporting our local newspapers. All Arkansans should be proud of the hard work put in each day by our Arkansas news media, who work tirelessly to fairly and accurately report the news of the day. Their work educates and inspires each one of us, and I am grateful that we live in a society where reporters are able to perform their jobs freely and openly.

I again congratulate all of the winners of this year's conference.●

##### TRIBUTE TO MARTIN LEONARD SKUTNIK

• Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, I want to take a moment to honor a great civil servant. On June 4, Martin Leonard Skutnik retired after 30 years of working at the Congressional Budget Office. Lenny exemplified the best of our public workforce. In his decades of service, Lenny worked tirelessly to support the work of CBO. He moved from handling mail and supplies, to printing reports, to providing IT support. Lenny's behind-the-scenes efforts helped CBO in its mission to provide Congress and the public with clear, timely, and accurate information. For that alone, he deserves our recognition and deepest thanks.

But Lenny will also be remembered for the heroic deed he performed early in his career at CBO. On a cold January day in 1982, Lenny was returning home from work when he witnessed Air Florida flight 90 crash into the Potomac

River. Risking his own life, Lenny jumped into the icy waters and saved one of the passengers from drowning. His selfless and heroic act was widely acclaimed at the time. President Reagan honored Lenny in his State of the Union Address, singling him out in the House gallery. This acknowledgment began the tradition of Presidents, in their State of the Union Addresses, recognizing people who have done extraordinary things. The President's gallery in the House is now often referred to as "the Heroes' Gallery," thanks to Lenny.

Lenny received many awards and honors for his actions on that day. But he never sought out the limelight or asked for special treatment. He remained a humble and hardworking public servant. Lenny insists he "wasn't a hero," and that he "was just someone who helped another human being." But we know a hero when we see one. We can't thank Lenny enough for his long, faithful service to CBO and the American people. I wish him a long, happy, and well-deserved retirement.●

• Mr. GREGG. Madam President, today I would like to recognize and thank a dedicated civil servant, Martin Leonard Skutnik. Lenny, as he is known, recently retired after working for 30 years for the Congressional Budget Office. He started at CBO in 1980 handling the mail and messenger duties—before the advent of the internet, email, and blackberries—and later worked to help print and produce CBO reports and provide IT support. Lenny worked behind the scenes, tirelessly for three decades, to help provide Congress with the information it needed. Lenny was a model civil servant, and for that he deserves our respect and praise.

Lenny was also a model citizen, and whether he thought so or not, a hero. In January 1982, Lenny witnessed a horrible event when an Air Florida plane crashed into the Potomac River near the 14th Street bridge. Without so much as a thought about his own safety, Lenny jumped into the river, which was full of chunks of floating ice, and saved the life of one of the crash victims. He was honored later that month by President Reagan during his State of the Union Address, and this began the inspirational tradition of Presidents honoring ordinary people who have done extraordinary things.

Through it all, Lenny shied away from the spotlight and continued to report to work, putting 100 percent effort into his work each day. He worked hard, remained humble, and never sought to exploit his fame. His character exemplifies the best of the American spirit, and for that he deserves our admiration. I wish to thank Lenny for his hard work and for his heroism—may he enjoy a healthy and well-deserved retirement.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to